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2003

1 December 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

ATTENTION:

CWH and [ ]

SUBJECT:

Conference with DD/P, 1 Dec '53 (PBSUCCESS)

1. [ ] With reference to my memo for the record, dtd 24 Nov '53, Subject: Conference with DD/P re PBSUCCESS, paragraph 2, it is recorded that I saw DD/P at 1145 hours this morning to show him [ ]

[ ] Mr. Berry from State happened to be in DD/P's office at the time. DD/P said that he had already seen [ ] he was now interested in obtaining official non-sensitive reports and/or minutes of the meeting at which the Guat Amb had voted negatively on the proposed item for the OAS agenda. Mr. Berry said that he and Mr. Leddy would obtain such non-sensitive material.

2. Assessment: DD/P was given a general informal briefing on the latest developments concerning PBSUCCESS. He was informed that the "assessment stage" was progressing as follows:

[ ] assessing Guatemala  
[ ] assessing Mexico  
[ ] assessing El Salvador  
[ ] assessing Honduras  
[ ] assessing Guat Communist organizations

DD/P was further informed about current overseas activities of [ ] (Commo [ ] (EEI's on Rufus' setup), and [ ] slated to be in place at the Embassy on or about 15 Dec). DD/P was given to understand that the deadline for completion of the assessment stage was 15 Dec '53 and that the intention was to have the assessment and preliminary operational plans out of the way before Christmas so that the forward base could be established forthwith at "Lincoln."

3. LINCOLN: DD/P was briefed on the proposed setup at "Lincoln" where [ ] accompanied by [ ] safehouse representative and a Commo representative would be working over the weekend to arrange for operations base, commo station and three safehouses.

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4. SANTA FE: It was reported to DD/P that the broadcasting facility at "Santa Fe" is shaping up according to plans and that [ ] people expect to have everything in readiness by 1 Jan '54.

5. [ ] DD/P was further informed about the current visit of WH representatives to [ ] at [ ] and our plans for [ ] and 6-12 indigenous personnel (to be recruited by [ ] and RUFUS) to be moved to "Lincoln" late in December.

6. Training: Mention was made of training plans for 30 leader-type RUFUS men to start approximately 1 Jan '54, and it was stated that [ ] would prepare appropriate training agenda plus equipment requirements in connection with this training.

7. Planning: It was further stated that [ ] would concentrate on operational planning for PM activities in connection with PBSUCCESS. Basic psychological warfare and political action planning is progressing and is in the process of being firmed up and implemented as soon as [ ] and his indigenous staff are in place at the forward operational base.

8. Military Missions: DD/P was brought up to date on [ ] current efforts concerning the Military Missions (briefing of the Chiefs) covered by memos for the record, dtd 24, 28 and 30 Nov '53. He was told that [ ] was making some progress but might need some high-level backing within the next few days in order to clinch the issue.

9. Briefing of State personnel: DD/P discussed with Mr. Berry the briefing of Mr. Cabot (of State) and his Deputy, and it was decided that Mr. Berry and J.C. King should brief Cabot as soon as practicable. This had been ok'd by Gen. Smith. DD/P and Berry agreed upon measures whereby Mr. Leddy would be protected in connection with the briefing of Cabot.

10. FBI Clearance: In connection with the plans concerning "Lincoln," DD/P queried whether this had been "cleared with the Bureau"? I was unable to answer this but stated that we would handle this angle in due course. (I subsequently reported this-- as well as all other information contained in this memo--to [ ] who said that the FBI clearance had been brought up at the recent briefing of DCI, DDCI and DD/P and that it had been decided on that occasion that it should be done in due course when the "Lincoln" structure had been firmed up.)

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~~SECURITY INFORMATION~~

11. PBSUCCESS Staff: It was reported to DD/P that the PBSUCCESS unit was getting organized and all set to operate like a team under the leadership of [ ] It was emphasized that well-qualified, enthusiastic people were being assigned to the team and that everybody would be in place at home and abroad immediately after New Year.

12. Current Situation: It was emphasized to DD/P that certain informal remarks in high places seem to indicate that "PBSUCCESS might be overtaken by events" or "that the climate in the target country was such that maybe the PBSUCCESS job would be much easier than originally expected"! DD/P appeared to agree that such ideas should not be worded or permitted to prevail. He further agreed that only a well-rounded, methodical and secure operation could achieve the objective in its entirety.

13. DD/P was notified that a complete briefing would be laid on for DCI, DDCI, COP and himself (according to his personal wishes) when the assessment stage and subsequent preliminary operational planning were completed sometime before Christmas. This briefing would cover the status of the various measures including military aid to three neighboring countries, economic pressures, etc.

14. WH Meeting: I told DD/P of my own plans in respect to visiting "Lincoln" and the scheduled WH regional meeting at Havana over the weekend and early next week for the sake of order.

[ ]  
HANS V. TOFTZ  
Chief, PP/Ops

C-PP/Ops/HVT:mgd

Distribution:

CC 1 & 2 of 4 - CWH thru [ ]  
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